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BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Health and Sanitary Circumstances

OF THE BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR

1937.

BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.



SIXTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

BY

C. W. GEE, L.R.C.P., and S.Ed., D.P.H. (L'pool.)

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

F. WHALLEY, Cert. R.S.I.

1937.

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MAYOR :

ALDERMAN SIDNEY CHARLES CLOTHIER.

DEPUTY MAYOR :

ALDERMAN ALBERT HENRY JOHN STROUD.

SANITARY COMMITTEE.

ALDERMAN W. J. C. PITTARD, *Chairman*.ALDERMAN W. R. E. MITCHELMORE, *Vice-Chairman*.

THE MAYOR.

Alderman F. W. COLE.

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Councillor W. P. BROOKS.

,, J. BOLLEN.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

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Councillor H. M. CHINNOCK.

Councillor F. SHORNEY.

,, R. G. PITTARD.

,, W. P. BROOKS.

,, H. TAVENER.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Dr. H. A. R. E. UNWIN, *Chairman*.COUNCILLOR S. DUCKWORTH, *Vice-Chairman*.

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ALDERMAN W. R. E. MITCHELMORE.

Councillor J. N. FUDGE.

Councillor H. D. BROOKS.

,, W. P. BROOKS.

,, F. SHORNEY.

,, H. TAVENER.

Mrs. BELL, Mrs. MITCHELMORE and Mrs. WALTERS.

Town Clerk : H. C. C. BATTEN, D.S.O.

Borough Surveyor and Waterworks Manager : A. J. PRICE, A.M.I.C.E.

Deputy Borough Surveyor : C. G. TYLER, M.Inst. M. & Cy.E.

Veterinary Surgeon : H. C. D. GOLLEDGE, D.V.M., F.R.C.V.S.

SANITARY STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health...	...*C. W. GEE, L.R.C.P. & S.Ed. D.P.H. L'pool,
Chief Sanitary Inspector ...	...*F. WHALLEY, C.R.S.I. (1, 2).
Sanitary Inspector ... ..	...*C. G. H. RICE (1, 2).
Matron Isolation Hospital ...	...*LILY M. ARNOLD (5).
Health Visitor ... ..	...*R. D. L. SULLIVAN (3, 4, 6).
Health Visitor ... ..	...‡*IVY HEAP (3, 4, 6).
Clerk to M.O.H. ... ..	...*DELSIE E. BAKER.
Disinfector ... ..	... C. AXE.
Midwives ... ..	...*ISABEL A. ALLEN (4).
	...*H. KNOWLES (4).
	...‡*C. B. EDWARDS (4).

(1) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. (4) Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board.

(2) Certificate for Meat Inspection of the Royal Sanitary Institute. (5) Certificate Bristol Lying-in Hospital.

(3) A Trained Nurse. (6) Health Visitors and School Nurses Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.

* Officers towards whose salaries Exchequer Contributions are received.

‡ Resigned during the year.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ALDERMAN W. R. E. MITCHELMORE, *Chairman*

ALDERMAN A. H. J. STROUD, *Vice-Chairman*.

THE MAYOR ALDERMAN S. C. CLOTHIER.

Councillor J. N. FUDGE.	Mr. PERCY FEASEY SHAW.
„ F. BEEL.	Rev. FRANK BUFFARD.
„ R. G. PITTARD.	Mrs. F. M. EWENS.
„ HENRY TAVENER.	Mrs. A. LITTLE.
„ W. P. BROOKS.	Miss F. PITTARD.
Capt. W. E. PALMER.	Mr. E. A. STAGG.

ATTENDANCE AND STAFF COMMITTEE.

ALDERMAN A. H. J. STROUD, *Chairman*.

Miss F. PITTARD, *Vice-Chairman*.

THE MAYOR ALDERMAN S. C. CLOTHIER.

Alderman W. R. E. MITCHELMORE.	Mrs. A. LITTLE.
Councillor F. BEEL.	Mr. E. A. STAGG.
Capt. WILFRED E. PALMER.	Mrs. EWENS.
Clerk to the Education Committee:	H. C. C. BATTEN, D.S.O.
School Attendance Officer:	W. P. TOLMAN.

FINANCE AND WORKS COMMITTEE.

COUNCILLOR J. N. FUDGE, *Chairman*.

COUNCILLOR H. TAVENER, *Vice-Chairman*.

Alderman W. R. E. MITCHELMORE.	Rev. FRANK BUFFARD.
„ W. P. BROOKS.	Mr. P. F. SHAW.
„ R. G. PITTARD.	

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT STAFF.

School Medical Officer: ...	... C. W. GEE, L.R.C.P. & S.Ed., D P.H.
Dentist: ... ..	... R. L. ROYAL, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)
School Nurse: ... ..	... IVY HEAP.
Clerk to Medical Officer: ...	... DELSIE E. BAKER.

BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the following report, which deals with the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year ending December 31st, 1937.

The Health of the Borough continues to be satisfactory.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was again low 26.0 as compared with 58 for the whole of England and Wales.

I have pleasure in thanking all Members of the Staff for their loyal and able support, and also the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee for their ready support and assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES W. GEE.

April, 1938.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1937.

A.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER.

The Borough of Yeovil comprises an area of 2,256 acres, situated at the extreme south of the County of Somerset, on the borders of Dorset, in the midst of an agricultural district.

The town is located upon the Upper and Middle Liassic Formations. The subsoil is chiefly clay, lying upon marlstone, with the Midford Sands at Hendford Hill.

The greatest elevations within the Borough are: On the north, Mudford Road, 360 feet; on the west, Summerlands, 239 feet; and on the south, Hendford Hill, 309 feet. The lowest point is on the east, beyond the Sewage Works, 96.7 feet.

METEOROLOGY.

The climate is mild and relaxing. There is little fog and mist except in the lower parts of the town along the banks of the river.

RAINFALL.

Sewage Works: Total Rainfall 38.99 inches. Rainy Days 195.

POPULATION.

The population at the June, 1931, Census was 19,078. The estimated mid-year population for 1937 is 20,100.

OCCUPATIONS.

The staple industry of Yeovil is the manufacture of leather gloves, including all processes from the preparation of the raw hides to the production of the finished article. This trade gives factory and home employment to a large number of persons of both sexes.

At the present moment there are 55 factories and workshops (inclusive of dressing yards). The 1937 returns showed that the total number of outworkers was 2,216, of

whom 992 resided in the Borough, the remainder 1,224 in the surrounding districts.

In addition to the gloving industry, there is a large engineering firm for the manufacture of oil engines, etc.

There is also a large factory for the manufacture of preserved foods and dairy produce.

The motor industry, body making and repairs, is gradually increasing, there being 18 workshops engaged in this work.

There are 5 printing works in the town.

POOR LAW RELIEF.

The amount of out-door relief distributed to poor persons in the Parish of Yeovil was £3,136 17s. 11½d. during 1937 and the amount distributed to the unemployed was £141 5s. 3d.

HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL RELIEF.

During the past year the Yeovil and District Hospital provided treatment for 1,076 in-patients, 494 out-patients, 225 dental attendances and 1762 minor casualties. In the X Ray department 810 examinations were made.

The Hospital has two large wards, one containing 24 beds and the other 16, one childrens ward containing 12 cots, and 7 private rooms and an Isolation section of 5 rooms.

RATEABLE VALUE.

The Rateable Value of the Borough is £151,056, the sum represented by a penny rate is £588.

B.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply is derived from three main sources, namely, Cattistock, Stockwood and Spring Pond, with two auxiliary supplies to the latter from Evershot Tunnell and Haydon Wood. All five sources are situated to the south-east, on the greensands of Dorsetshire. Cattistock is 10, Stockwood is 6¼, and the other sources about 8 miles from Yeovil. The water is conveyed to the town by gravitation through two separate pipe lines. There is a service reservoir of 250,000 gallons for the Cattistock Supply. Two for the Supply from Spring Pond having a combined capacity of 1,267,798 gallons, and one for the Supply from Stockwood with a capacity of 750,000 gallons. The water is of medium

hardness and of good quality for drinking purposes. The average consumption is 30 gallons per head per day.

The Council have completed the work, and the additional supply from the bore hole at Preston is now in use.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Yeo for a small part of its course lies within the area of the Borough of Yeovil. A tributary to this river, before passing through the town, receives the effluent from the Preston Sewage Works.

The effluent from the Yeovil Sewage Works empties into the Yeo outside the town.

All sources of pollution of this river have been removed as far as possible.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The position with regard to drainage and sewerage is, with the exception of those districts brought in by the extension of the Borough, very satisfactory.

In these districts there are still many houses drained to cesspools, with wells in close proximity, some of which give cause for grave concern.

In the Preston district, where the drainage is principally on the cesspool system, there are many of these cesspools which overflow in the surface water sewers, and although town's water is generally laid on, the sink wastes also discharge into the surface water sewers, and so into the stream, rendering the position, particularly during summer, very unsatisfactory.

The Main Sewage Works are situated at Pen Mill. The method in force is sedimentation, which takes place in five closed tanks, the effluent being passed on to a series of contact beds and one percolating bed.

The effluent from the contact beds is discharged into an equalising pool, and with that from the percolating bed is discharged into a separator in which colloidal matter is deposited and thence to the river.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Practically the whole of the closet accommodation is on the water carriage system, the exceptions being some 30-40 houses in the Preston district—and these are provided either with pail or vault closets. These latter are not satisfactory.

SMOKE, ETC.

The question of smoke from factory chimneys is constantly receiving attention, and any unusual emission of smoke from a shaft is noted, and immediate steps taken to remedy the defect.

The industries of the town do not, generally speaking, give rise to much trouble in this respect, probably because in the gloving manufacturies, boilers are used principally for heating and not for power purposes, and this renders the position easier. On the other hand, as the major portion of the factories lie in the lower part of the town, when excessive smoke is emitted, the affect is more quickly felt and strict attention is given thereto.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The Corporation have a public Swimming Bath, the water of which is chlorinated. Bacteriological examination during the season showed that the condition of the water was satisfactory.

SCAVENGING.

COLLECTION OF REFUSE.—All refuse in the town is collected once weekly by the Council employees and conveyed in covered motor vehicles to the refuse destructor and burnt.

REFUSE DESTRUCTOR.—The refuse destructor is of the Stirling Type, and consists of three cells hand fed and clinkered.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICTS.

A statement of inspections made with their results is included in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are two common Lodging Houses in Yeovil containing beds for the accommodation of 35 persons. They are constantly inspected, and are kept in a satisfactory condition from the health point of view.

HOUSES LET-IN LODGINGS.

None registered.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are 17 dressing yards and 2 marine stores.

UNDERGROUND ROOMS.

There are no underground sleeping rooms in Yeovil.

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary condition of the schools in Yeovil is on the whole satisfactory. The schools are supplied with water from the public water supply.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE SCHOOLS.

The following is the routine adopted for the exclusion of scholars suffering from infectious diseases and those who are contacts.

The Medical Officer of Health, in his capacity as School Medical Officer, issues School Exclusion Notices to the parents and head teachers of the school which the case attends. Contacts are also excluded. Children from infected households are not allowed to return to school until Re-admission Notices are sent to the parents and head teachers. Any suspicious case brought to the attention of the teachers and school nurse is excluded until the School Medical Officer is satisfied as to the diagnosis.

DIPHTHERIA.—No child is notified as fit to return to School until Bacteriological evidence of a satisfactory character is obtained. Contacts are swabbed and excluded when necessary.

A system of Sunday School exclusion is in force. A list of the names and addresses of all children suffering from infectious diseases, and also of possibly infected contacts, is drawn up each Saturday, and a copy sent to the Superintendents of all Sunday Schools in the Borough.

FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 15 Cow-keepers, 14 of whom are provided with cowsheds. There are 26 retailers of milk in the town, 12 of whom have milkshops.

The cowsheds are periodically inspected and are kept in a fairly satisfactory condition. During recent years they have been properly paved and drained.

The premises of the persons registered for the sale of milk and the Milkshops are constantly inspected.

The results of analysis made for the purpose of the Food and Drugs Acts indicate that the milk retailed in the Borough on the whole is of good standard and clean.

In accordance with the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-

Shops Orders 33 persons are registered as follows:—

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|----------|
| (a) Number of producers on the Register | ... | 15 |
| (b) Number of distributors on the Register
divided as follows:— | | |
| (1) Distributors who are also producers... | | 8 |
| (2) Distributors alone | ... .. | 18 |
| (c) The completeness of the Register and
any steps taken to make it complete | | Complete |
| (d) Particulars of any licenses granted to
distributors to sell pasteurised, graded
or certified milk | | 5 |
| (e) Any action taken as to tuberculosis
milk and tubercular cattle | 12 samples taken. | |

MILK FOR MOTHERS AND INFANTS.

Provision is made for the supply of milk to necessitous cases. Investigations are made by lady members of the Committee and each case is dealt with on its merits by the Infant Welfare Committee.

OTHER FOODS.

All places where the manufacture of food for public consumption is carried on are regularly inspected, and have been found to be in a satisfactory condition.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 11 Bakehouses in the Borough. The Bakehouses are constantly inspected, and are being kept in a reasonable state.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 10 private slaughter-houses, all of which are licensed. These are kept under constant supervision and are fairly satisfactory, although structurally they do not conform to modern requirements. There is no Public Abattoir in Yeovil.

MARKETS.

The markets have been moved from the open street to the New Open Market Place off South Street.

The whole of the Site is properly paved and drained and the position is more satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION.

During the year inspections of the slaughter-houses and butchers' shops have been carefully carried out.

Under Section 8 of the 1924 Meat Regulations, the Yeovil Butchers' Association have given written Notice to the Local Authority, and the hours fixed for killing in Slaughter houses are as follows:—

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thursday 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

95 notices were received during the year in regard to animals killed outside these fixed hours.

MEAT MARKING.—No arrangements have been made for the Marking of Meat under the Regulations.

DISEASED MEAT.—This is conveyed to the Refuse Destructor and burnt. Fats are sent to a Firm who render them down for manufacturing purposes other than Food.

The owners of Meat Stalls in the Borough have complied with the Regulations so far as the construction of the Stalls is concerned.

The transport and handling of meat has been considerably improved, and is under careful supervision.

The meat killed and inspected during the year has been very satisfactory, but efficient inspection of the whole of the animals killed is impossible, owing to the fact that the ten private slaughter houses are situated in various parts of the town, and only by the substitution of a Public Abattoir for the Private slaughter houses can this be remedied.

The following is a statement of meat condemned during the year.

Animals and parts condemned.				Number
PIGS—	Whole carcasses	...	...	42
	Heads	...	...	640
	Internal organs alone	...	...	447
	194 lbs. bruised Pork.			
OXEN & CALVES—	Whole Carcasses	...	...	9
	Fore or Hind quarters	...	...	3
	Heads	...	...	6
	Whole of Internal organs			23
	Livers only	...	...	64
	14 lbs. Bruised Beef.			
SHEEP—	Whole carcasses	...	...	3
	Internal organs only	...	...	3
	Livers	...	...	35

OTHER FOODS—106 Rabbits.

36 Tins of Shrimps.

35 lbs. Cooked Beef.

1 Fowl.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

These Acts are administered by the County Council. Mr. Turrier has kindly supplied the number, nature and results of samples taken in the Borough during the year.

Samples taken in the Borough of Yeovil for year ending 31st December, 1937.

					Adulterated.
Bolax	...	...	...	1	
Vinegar	...	...	...	2	
Pepper	...	...	...	1	
Brawn	...	...	...	2	
Sausages	...	...	...	1	
Brandy	...	...	...	1	
Gin	...	...	...	1	
Butter	...	...	...	1	
Margarine	...	...	...	1	
Non-alcoholic wine		...	...	1	
Condensed Milk	...	...	...	2	
Hydrogen Peroxide		...	...	1	1
Canned Peel	...	...	...	1	
Coffee	...	...	...	1	
Cream	...	...	...	3	
Pickles	...	...	...	1	
Rum	...	...	...	1	
Tea	...	...	...	1	
Tincture of Iodine		...	...	1	1
Milk	...	...	...	25	1
				—	—
				49	3
				—	—

No action was taken in connection with the Adulterated Samples as the circumstances did not warrant legal proceedings being taken.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

These have been regularly visited during the year under review. I give below the annual return required by the Home Office.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORK- PLACES including Inspection made by the Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of	
		Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ..	36	2	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	49	1	—
Workplaces	9	—	—
Total	94	3	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars				Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :						
Want of Cleanliness	..	..	—	—	—
„ Ventilation	..	..	—	—	—
Overcrowding	..	..	—	—	—
Want of Draining of Floors		..	—	—	—	
Other Nuisances	..	..	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation, insufficient	..	2		2	—	
„ „ defective	..	—		—	—	
„ „ not separate		1		1	—	
		for sexes	1		—	
Offences under Factory and Workshop Acts :						
Illegal occupation of underground						
Bakehouse (s. 101)	..	..	—	—	—
Breach of Special Sanitary requirements						
for Bakehouses (ss. 97-100)		..	—	—	—	
Other Offences	..	..	—	—	—
Total				3	3	—

3. HOME WORK.

OUTWORKERS' LIST. Section 107. Nature of Work—GLOVING.

	Number.
Lists received from Employers once in the year ...	31
Outworkers outside the Borough ... 1224	2216
Outworkers in the Borough ... 992	
Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists ...	32
Prosecutions: Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists ...	Nil
„ Failing to send lists ...	Nil

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108:

Instances ...	Nil
Notices served ...	Nil
Prosecutions ...	Nil

Outwork in Infected Premises, Section 109, 110:

Instances ...	2
Orders made (s. 110) (Gloving removed and disinfected) ...	2
Prosecutions ...	Nil

4. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on Register (s. 131) at end of year:

	Number
Bakehouses ...	12
Leather Dressing ...	11
Leather Staining ...	2
Leather De-greasing ...	2
Glove Making ...	40
Tailoring ...	12
Dressmaking ...	26
Millinery ...	14
Marine Stores ...	2
Laundry ...	2
Blacksmith ...	2
Sweet Making ...	3
Lace Repairing ...	1
Miscellaneous ...	90
Total Number of Workshops on Register ...	219

Action taken in matters referred to H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 5, 1901):

Notified by H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	1
Reports (of action taken) sent by H.M. Inspector				1
Others	...	...	...	Nil
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101):				
In use at the end of the year	...	...	...	Nil

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THEATRES, CINEMA HOUSES, Etc.

These have been inspected.

There are four in the town, one giving theatrical or variety performances, and three Cinemas.

The ventilation is good in every case and the condition of the accommodation for artists is entirely satisfactory.

Means of escape in the case of fire are provided for in each building.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The means adopted in the Borough to control the spread of infectious diseases do not differ in any material details from those given in the annual report for 1930.

SCARLET FEVER.

22 cases were notified during the year 1937.

DIPHTHERIA.

12 cases were notified during the year 1937.

Antitoxin is supplied free of charge to Medical Practitioners requiring the same on application to the Health Office.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

No cases of this disease was notified.

MEASLES.

11 cases of Measles were notified.

GERMAN MEASLES.

43 cases of this disease were notified.

CHICKEN POX.

85 cases of this disease were notified during the year.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925.**

It was not found necessary to take action under these Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

No case occurred in which it was necessary to take action under Section 62.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10 ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 ..	5	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
35 ..	5	8	—	3	3	5	—	—
45 ..	3	3	1	—	—	—	1	—
55 ..	3	3	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 & up } wards }	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Total ..	19	19	4	3	5	5	3	—

All deaths from Tuberculosis were notified cases. There is no evidence of any inefficiency of notification of Tuberculosis in the district.

TABLE II.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Notified Diseases.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
	At all Ages.	AT AGES—YEARS.								
		Under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and up-wards		
Measles	11	..	2	8	1	..	..	..	..	..
German Measles	13	1	17	21	3	1	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia	20	..	2	2	3	4	7	2	..	19
Diphtheria	12	..	2	5	4	1	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	7	..	..	..	2	..	2	3	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Neonatorum	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	2	..	5	15	1	..	1	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Tyrexia	5	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	..
Typhoid	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lethargica	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following cases of non-notifiable infectious diseases are known to have occurred.

Whooping Cough, 23. Mumps, 67.

INFLUENZA.

The Number of deaths were 8 as compared with 7 in the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Somerset County Council deal with all cases of Tuberculosis notified in Yeovil.

The dispensary is situated in Southville, and is open all day on Mondays for the examination and treatment of patients.

PREVALENCE.

ALL FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Notifications ...	45	24	31	27	35
Number of Deaths ...	13	7	11	12	13
Death-rate per 1,000	.6	.3	.5	.6	.6

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS (Phthisis).

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Notifications ...	38	17	23	17	25
Number of Deaths ...	10	6	10	11	12
Death-rate per 1,000	.4	.3	.5	.5	.6

During the year 1937, 45 notifications were received, 38 related to pulmonary and 7 to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

A treatment centre at the Yeovil and District Hospital is provided by the Somerset County Council. Hours of attendance—Fridays, at 3 p.m., for Men; Mondays, at 3 p.m., for Women; and Mondays, at 7 p.m., for Women, and 7.30 for Men.

The Monday evening Clinic is a temporary arrangement, and will be continued only if it is found that sufficient patients attend.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Midwives' Act is administered by the Somersetshire County Council. The Lady Inspector of Midwives resides at Taunton.

There are at present 14 midwives resident in the town, two of whom are engaged by the Council in the district, 5 in the Maternity Home, and one is employed by the Guardians.

During the year 1919 the Council adopted and put into operation an amended scheme for Maternity and Child Welfare work.

A supply of Milk Foods to necessitous mothers was provided.

The Council have arranged for the provision of Home Helps.

The Maternity Home contains 2 large wards with 4 beds each, and 3 private wards with 1 bed each.

During the year 175 cases were admitted, having an average duration stay of 15.3 days.

NURSING OF MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.—Additional nurses can be engaged temporarily during epidemics of these diseases.

MOTHERS.—The Health Visitors made 178 visits to expectant mothers. The Municipal Midwives attended 212 confinements during the year.

INFANTS.—243 primary and 2788 subsequent visits were paid to infants.

6,329 Post Natal visits were made.

3,541 visits were paid to children from 1 to 5 years of age.

BOARDED OUT CHILDREN.

The Yeovil Borough Council carry out the function under Part I of the children's Act 1908, formerly discharged by the Yeovil Poor Law Guardians. The Medical Officer of Health and Health Visitor have been appointed Infant Protection Visitors.

At the beginning of 1937 there were on the Register the names of 5 boys.

During the year no children were notified as having been received for reward.

During the year no names were removed from the register.

The number on the register at the end of 1937 was 5 boys.

All children and persons receiving them were constantly visited, 74 visits were made.

The conditions of the homes were found satisfactory.

ANTE-NATAL AND INFANT CLINIC.

This Clinic is held in the School Clinic, Preston Road, on Tuesday afternoons, at 3 o'clock.

42 expectant mothers attended the clinic, and 14 post-natal attendances were made. 397 infants attended for the first time. The mothers made 56 and the children 4074 attendances at the clinic.

67 children below school age were treated at the Treatment Clinic, Preston Road. Attendances made, 88.

All still-births and infant deaths are investigated. There were 8 still-births during 1937.

At the present moment there is no institution but the Union Infirmary for dealing with confinements of unmarried mothers, and children are permanently or temporarily deprived of a home with their parents. Fortunately in the past temporary homes have been found through the agency of the N.S.P.C.C.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AFFECTING PARTURIENT WOMEN, INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—During the year two cases were notified.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health, a chief Sanitary Inspector, who is also Manager of the Sewage Works, and an Assistant Sanitary Inspector, and one Disinfecter. Two Health Visitors, a Matron for the Isolation Hospital, and two Midwives are employed by the Council. The School Nurse gives a portion of her time to health visiting and to the County Tuberculosis work in Yeovil. The connection thus established between the Public Health Department of the Borough and the County Tuberculosis scheme is most desirable and has in the past yielded most satisfactory results.

When the Isolation Hospital contains no patients, the matron assists in health visiting and baby work.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Lyde Lane Isolation Hospital is employed for the isolation of scarlet fever patients.

It consists of a permanent building containing two wards, separated by a small room, and in addition the quarters for the matron, consisting of a bedroom, sitting-room, store-room and kitchen.

There is also a temporary wooden building divided into three communicating wards which is used, when necessary, as an overflow for convalescent fever cases. The ambulance house and mortuary are good brick buildings. The matron resides at the hospital and keeps it in readiness for immediate use.

There is no accommodation in the administrative block for additional nurses which greatly increases the difficulty of administration when the disease is present in epidemic form in the town.

Arrangements have been made with the Somerset County Council for the admission of Small Pox cases to the Hospital at Bridgwater. No case has occurred since the epidemic in 1909.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Byelaws with respect to the Cleansing of Footways and pavements, and the Cleansing of Earthclosets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools, Nov. 4th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Common Lodging Houses, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to the Drainage of Existing Buildings, Jan. 27th, 1926.

Byelaws for the Good Rule and Government of the Borough, and for the Prevention of Nuisances, made in pursuance of Section 23 of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, Oct. 30th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Hackney Carriages, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Hoardings and Advertisements, Oct. 20th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to a Market, Nov. 28th, 1922

Byelaws with respect to the Provision of means of Escape from Fire in the case of certain Factories and Workshops, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to New Streets and Buildings, Nov. 23rd, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Nuisances and with respect to the Removal or Carriage through the streets of fæcal or offensive or noxious matter or liquid, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Offensive Trades, Feb. 20th, 1926.

Byelaws with respect to the Pleasure Grounds known as the Sidney Gardens and Bide's Garden, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws for the Management, Use and Regulation of the Public Baths, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws made under Section 3 of the Public Libraries Act, 1901, Oct. 30th, 1925.

Byelaws for imposing on the occupier of any premises duties in connection with the Removal of House Refuse so as to facilitate the work of collection, Nov. 4th, 1925.

Byelaws as to the Conduct of Persons frequenting the Sanitary Conveniences provided and maintained by the Council, Nov. 4th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Slaughter Houses, Nov. 11th, 1925 and April 20th, 1931.

Byelaws with respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds, and Similar Structures used for human habitation, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Regulations in regard to Underground Rooms used as Sleeping Places, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Whirligigs, Swings, and Shooting Ranges and Galleries, Nov. 4th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to the pleasure ground known as "Ninesprings," June 19th, 1933.

Byelaws with respect to the employment of children and for regulating street trading by persons under the age of 18 years, May 14th, 1934 and 8th July, 1935.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

	Positive	Negative	Total
Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli ...	24	201	225
Hairs for Ringworm Spores ...	—	1	1
Milk for Tubercle Bacilli	—	2	2
Sputa for Tuberculosis	54	12	66
4 Samples of Milk, Human.			
1 Sample of Ice Cream.			
2 Samples of Milk, Cows.			

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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

		1937	1936	1935	1934	
Mid-year Population	...	20,100	19,650	19,160	19,220	
Number of Births	...	307	253	223	265	
Birth-rate per 1000	...	15.2	12.8	11.1	13.7	
Number of Deaths	...	216	212	217	203	
Standardised Death-rate		11.0	11.0	11.6	10.8	
Infantile Mortality	...	26.0	11.8	31.7	41.5	
Phthisis Death rate	...	.6	.3	.5	.5
Cancer Death-rate	...	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.6	
Notifications:—		1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Measles & German Measles		54	185	228	536	13
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	2	2	—	3	4
Tuberculosis	45	24	31	27	35
Other Infectious Diseases		35	53	63	54	32

POPULATION.

The estimated population for 1937 is 20,100. (Registrar-General's estimate).

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered was 344. This number has been corrected for transfers by the Registrar-General. The births allocated to the Borough was 307, equivalent to a birth-rate of 15.2 per 1,000. (Legitimate, male 152, females 155). (Illegitimate, males 7, females 6).

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

The number of births notified was 366, of which 14 were still-births,

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.			Vision Un- impaired	Vision Im- paired	Total Blind- ness	Deaths
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital				
2	2	—	2	—	—	—	

DEATHS.

The deaths registered numbered 229. The Registrar-General transferred 36 of these deaths, being persons not belonging to the Borough, to their usual places of residence, and 23 deaths of Yeovil residents from other districts. The net total number of deaths for the Borough was 216, equivalent to a death-rate of 10.7 per 1,000.

The death-rate for the whole of England and Wales for the year 1937 was 12.4.

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

NET DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES
UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year
All causes Certified
Circulatory Diseases
Measles
Bronchitis
Pneumonia
Enteritis
Marasmus	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Congenital Debility ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Convulsions
Heart Congenital ..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Whooping Cough	1	1	..	..	2
Death from Violence
Tubercular Meningitis
Misadventure
Prematurity ..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Toxic Jaundice
Cancer
Intercianal Ha'mc'hage
Pyeoric Stenosis
	5	..	..	1	6	1	1	..	..	8

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age was 8, equivalent to an infantile mortality rate of 26.0 per 1,000 births. Legitimate 26.0. Illegitimate nil. The Rate for the whole of England and Wales in the year 1937 was 58.

REGISTRAR GENERALS FIGURES, 1937.

						Males.	Females.
	All Causes	...	...	...	...	110	106
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	—	—
2.	Measles	...	.....	...	...	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	1	1
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	2
6.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	7
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	1	1
8.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	8	4
10.	Other Tuberculosis Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	2
11.	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	—	—
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane, Tables Dorsalis	...	...	...	...	2	—
13.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	12	21
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	3
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	3	7
16.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	25	23
17.	Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	—	—
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	14	8
19.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	4	2
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	3	2
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	3	—
22.	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	—	—
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	—	—
24.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	1	—
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	1	—
26.	Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	—	1
27.	Other Digestive Disease	...	...	...	...	2	2
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	3	1
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	—
30.	Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	5	2
32.	Senility	...	...	...	...	1	7
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	—
34.	Other Violence	...	...	...	...	3	5
35.	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	13	5
36.	Causes Ill-defined or Unknown	...	...	...	...	—	—

HOUSING.

GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

At the end of 1937 there were 6037 houses in the Borough of Yeovil, of which 4378 approximately were occupied by the working classes.

250 houses were erected during the year.

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	...	...	...	...	250
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:					
(i) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	Nil
(ii) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	Nil
Otherwise	...	...	...	...	250

OVERCROWDING.

There are still a few cases of overcrowding in the Borough due principally to the fact that there is still an insufficiency of satisfactory houses, particularly houses with a larger number of bedrooms.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The general standard of the houses in the town is fairly good, but there are a number of old houses, which require re-conditioning. The chief defects are due to the age of these properties, viz., decayed timbers, and masonry, the mortar of which has perished. Due to these two factors, floors and roofs have sunk, walls have become out of plumb and are crumbling gradually.

UNFIT HOUSES.

Representation was made with regard to one unfit house during the year.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

There are no unhealthy areas in the Borough and no representation has been made.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

There are not any of the above habitations in the Borough at the present time.

Byelaws have been made with respect to tents, vans, sheds, and similar structures,

GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Every effort is made to abate nuisances arising from overcrowding, but this is extremely difficult to cope with under the present shortage of houses. Many houses which, on inspection, have been found to be in an unsanitary state have been put in order.

HOUSING INSPECTION.

During the year 283 houses have been inspected and the defects recorded.

Two of the most unsatisfactory features existing in connection with the older houses in the town, are still those of the combined use of closets and water supply, and these conditions are in my opinion undesirable and even degrading.

Special attention is now being paid to these features, and owners of such properties are being requested to amend the position.

APPENDICES.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	250
(b) As part of a municipal housing scheme	...					120

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Act)	...	...	...	...	283
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	910
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925)	...				105
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	725
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...			1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	99

2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their officers	110
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

3 *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.*

A.—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of
of the Housing Act, 1930:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were
rendered fit after service of formal
notices:—

(a) By owners	Nil
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil
---	-----

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring de- fects to be remedied	Nil
--	-----	-----	-----	-----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which de-
fects were remedied after service of
formal notices:—

(a) By owners	Nil
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil
---	-----

C.—Proceedings under sections 11, 13 and 26 of
the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	Nil
--	-----	-----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	16
---	-----	----

(3) Clearance Orders made	Nil
---------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

(4) Clearance Orders confirmed	...	...	Nil
(a) Number of Houses involved	...	...	Nil
(b) Number of Houses demolished	...	...	Nil

4. *Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding:—*

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	67
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	77
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	504½
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	1
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	10
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	55
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.	...	...	...	...

CHAS. W. GEE,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1937.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present a brief report of the work carried out during the past year, and take pleasure in according appreciation of the valuable assistance given by Mr. Rice (Assistant Sanitary Inspector).

NUISANCES.

Careful attention has been paid throughout the year to all complaints received, and the necessary steps taken to abate the nuisances as expeditiously as possible.

On the whole the work called for under notices served has been carried out fairly satisfactorily, but there still is a tendency on the part of many owners of working-class house property to make the occupiers responsible for internal decorations, and in some instances, internal repairs.

This tendency to place the responsibility on the occupiers renders the position somewhat difficult at times, and in some instances the repairs are not carried out so expeditiously.

Special attention has been paid during the year to Licensed Houses, where amendments in connection with the Sanitary arrangements have been carried out, particular attention being given to the provision of separate accommodation for both sexes.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The inspections during the year have been carried out as far as possible in accordance with the requirements of the

Memorandum and Regulations issued by the Ministry of Health in regard to Meat Inspection.

A close inspection has been made of Slaughter-houses, Butchers' Shops and Stalls, and they have, generally speaking, been found to be kept satisfactory, and the cattle, etc., killed during the year have been of a good quality.

During the year the number of carcasses inspected were as follows:—

Bullocks	...	...	...	...	825
Sheep	...	...	...	...	1,310
Pigs	...	...	...	...	8,891
Calves	...	...	...	...	77

Particulars of meat condemned are given in the preceding part of the Report.

MILK SUPPLY.

A careful and continuous inspection has been kept on the Milk Supply of the town, and the Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk-shops have been found to be kept clean and satisfactory.

BAKEHOUSES.

Regular inspections have been made of the Bakehouses, and although two or three of them are structurally unsatisfactory, they have on the whole been kept in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Numerous visits have been made in connection with the above which have resulted in sanitary improvements being carried out in some of the workshops.

Outworkers' Lists have been received and dealt with.

SMOKE NUISANCES.

Several cases of smoke nuisance have been under observation during the year, and improvements have resulted from interviews with the Manufacturers concerned.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTION.

The number of inspections made, together with the result of such inspections and re-inspections, are given in the following tables:

PARTICULARS OF INSPECTIONS—

Houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	105
Houses Re-inspected	...	...	...	...	773
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	188
Nuisances, Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	177
Complaints	...	...	...	...	174
Drainage	...	...	...	...	223
Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	54
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	1729
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	285
Markets	...	...	...	...	133
Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	51
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	95
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	41
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	74
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	76
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	16
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	17
Rats and Mice Destruction Act	...	...	...	...	35
Visits re Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	85
Snow Clearance	...	...	...	...	9
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	80

Result of Inspections and Visits.

HOUSES and PREMISES.

Houses Re-conditioned	...	...	...	42
Houses Repaired	...	...	...	12
Amended Lighting to Rooms	...	...	...	18
Amended Ventilation to Rooms	...	...	...	12
Windows Repaired	...	...	...	47
Windows Provided	...	...	...	23
Dampness Remedied	...	...	...	47
Amended Food Storage	...	...	...	50
New Roofs	...	...	...	3
Roofs Repaired	...	...	...	20

New Staircases ...	...	...	...	...	2
Staircases Repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Handrails Provided	...	...	...	...	41
Chimneys Repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Yards Paved ...	...	...	...	...	11
Yards Repaired	...	...	...	...	9
New Floors ...	...	...	...	...	22
Floors Repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Walls and Ceilings Repaired	...	...	...	...	72
Eaves Guttering Repaired	...	...	...	...	22
New Sculleries Built	...	...	...	...	7
Rooms Redecorated	...	...	...	...	44
Ceilings Redecorated	...	...	...	...	22

MISCELLANEOUS—

Removal of Filth	...	...	...	...	6
Insanitary Keeping of Animals ...	...	...	...	...	2
Choked Drains Cleared and Repaired ...	...	...	...	...	9
Steam Disinfection	...	...	...	...	85

HOUSE DRAINAGE AND CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—

New Systems Provided to Existing Houses	...	...	...	...	15
Interceptors Fixed	...	...	...	...	10
Inspection Chambers Built	...	...	...	...	34
Gulleys Fixed	...	...	...	...	45
Ventilating Shafts Fixed	...	...	...	...	7
New Sinks Provided	...	...	...	...	37
Alterations and Repairs to Existing Drainage	...	...	...	...	43
New Urinals Fixed (Public Houses)	...	...	...	...	6
New W.C.'s Built	...	...	...	...	25
Existing W.C.'s Repaired, Lighted and Ventilated	...	...	...	...	13
Flushing Apparatus Provided	...	...	...	...	24
Pedestal Pans and Seats Fixed	...	...	...	...	22
Defective Traps Removed	...	...	...	...	10
Cesspool Systems Converted and Connected to the Public Sewer	...	...	...	...	9

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. WHALLEY.

BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.

**SCHOOL
HYGIENE.**

1937.

STATISTICAL REVIEW OF WORK
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE
DURING YEAR 1937.

Children on the roll at Elementary Schools	...	...	2,272
Elementary School Children examined	...	...	1,025
Total Examinations Elementary School Children	...	...	3,786
Children having defects which required treatment or to be kept under observation	...	...	785
Minor Ailments treated at School Clinic	...	...	708
Total attendances at School Clinic	...	...	2,790
Visual Defects treated	...	...	75
Nose and Throat Defects treated	...	...	40
Children inspected by School Dentist	...	...	1,646
Children treated by School Dentist	...	...	902
Children examined by School Nurse for Cleanliness	...	...	7,454
Number of individual Children found unclean	...	...	30
Visits to School by Medical Officer	...	...	147
Visits to School Nurses	...	...	217
Home Visits by Nurses	...	...	2,193

BOROUGH OF YEOVIL
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Education Committee.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you the 30th Annual Report which deals with the work of Medical Inspection, following up and treatment of children attending the Elementary Schools in the Borough.

The School Care Committee still continues to provide from voluntary contributions much appreciated assistance to necessitous children who do not come within the scope of relief from the Public Assistance Committee.

I have pleasure in acknowledging the cordial co-operation of the Staff of the Department, the Attendance Officer, and the Head Teachers.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES W. GEE,
School Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

FOR THE YEAR 1937.

INTRODUCTION.

At the beginning of 1936 there were in the Borough under the control of the Education Committee 7 schools with 10 departments.

There was accommodation for 2,586 children, 2,272 being on the roll, with an average attendance 1,752.

At the end of the year the number on the roll was 2,351 and the average attendance 2,038.

The number of children under 5 years of age attending school at the end of the year was 74.

HYGIENIC CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.

During the year new wash basins have been installed in the cloak rooms at the Pen Mill Mixed Schools.

The Classification of Children examined is set out in Table 1.

The name of every child suffering from a defect of sufficient importance to be brought to the notice of parents is entered on a special card and filed for following up and re-examination. If, at the time of the medical inspection, the case appears suitable for immediate attention, steps are taken to provide the necessary treatment. Every case is followed up by the nurses of the Medical Officer's Staff, who encourage the parents to obtain medical advice or arrange

for attendance at the Clinic. After treatment, a re-examination is made by the School Medical Officer on the occasion of the next visit to the school attended by the child.

Table 2 shows the number of serious defects found in systematic and special examinations, and brought to the notice of the parents.

CLEANSING OF SCHOOLS.

All the schools are provided with part-time cleaners with the exception of the Central School and Special Subjects Centre, for which a whole-time cleaner is provided. The part-time cleaners are also assisted by a man employed full time as a visiting cleaner and whose duties consist of looking after the latrines and play grounds.

GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE SCHOLARS.

General Facts, Scope of Inspection.

The bulk of the school inspections take place at the respective schools. The children attending the Reckleford Schools and the Central Junior School are examined at the Clinic attached to the Special Subjects Centre in Eastland Road.

A weighing machine and height standard are kept at each school.

NUMBER OF VISITS.

The following visits to the school departments and children's homes were made during 1937.

A. To Schools and Departments.

1. By Medical Officer:

a.	For systematic inspections	...	...	52
b.	For special inspections and re-inspections			49
c.	For enquiries as to infectious diseases, sanitary conditions, etc.	...	...	46

2.	By School Nurse:		
a.	For systematic inspections	... ..	52
b.	For special inspection and re-inspections		165
B.	To the Children's Homes	... ..	2,193

The Home visits do not include those made in connection with measles, german measles and other notifiable infectious diseases.

PRINCIPLE OF SELECTION OF CHILDREN FOR INSPECTION.

The children are selected by means of the special medical inspection registers. Each child is examined as soon as possible after admission to the school, for the second time at 8 years of age, for the third time at 12 years of age, and again on leaving School.

METHOD OF INSPECTION.

The School Nurse accompanies the School Medical Officer. Her work consists of recording the presence or absence of parents and the family history. She weighs and measures the child and gives the necessary assistance of undressing and dressing the girls and infants.

PRESENCE OF PARENTS AT ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.

Parents or guardians were present at 416 or 40% of the inspections. The presence of parents is very desirable. Physical defects can be pointed out and the mother's interest in the child's welfare can be stimulated so as to yield more practical results than can be obtained by sending written notices.

CLOTHING AND FOOTGEAR.

There was an improvement upon the previous year in the condition of boots and clothes of the children attending school. 4 cases of poor clothing and 5 cases of defective boots were found during the year.

CLEANLINESS OF THE HEAD.

Of the 543 boys inspected none had nits in their hair or vermin.

Of the 482 girls, 4 or .8% had nits and none had vermin.

The following are the results of the systematic surprise examinations during the year 1937:—

			Examined		With Nits.		With Vermin.	
			Number.		No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
INFANTS: Boys	...	1424	21	1.4	3	.2		
Girls	...	1487	64	4.3	6	.4		
SENIORS: Boys	...	2434	6	.2	1	.04		
Girls	...	2109	75	3.5	17	.8		
All Boys	...	3858	27	.6	4	.1		
All Girls	...	3596	139	3.8	23	.6		
All Children	...	7454	166	2.2	27	.3		

CLEANLINESS OF THE BODY.

There are still many children found in school with nits in their hair in spite of the fact that a number of systematic and surprise examinations have been carried out at the schools, and repeated notices sent to parents in re-current cases.

No children were found to be marked by flea bites.

SCHOOL BATHS.

There are no school shower or other baths. The Corporation baths are available to selected boys and girls.

SCHOOL CARE COMMITTEE.

Distributions made by the Committee during year:

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	2	children
Parrishes Food	...	...	...	...	...	4	„
Virol	...	...	...	...	...	3	„
Emulsion	...	...	...	...	...	2	„
Boots (new)	...	...	...	...	...	21	„
Boots (second-hand)	...	...	...	...	...	14	„
Boots (repaired)	...	...	...	...	...	2	„
Garments:							
New	...	...	...	...	...	13	„
Second-hand	...	...	...	...	...	82	„

HEARING—EAR DISEASE.

Cases of chronic discharge from the ears are on the decrease. Of the 1025 children examined, 3 children had discharging ears.

NOSE AND THROAT.

During the year 64 children were certified as requiring operation. Under an agreement with the Yeovil & District Hospital the Education Committee pays for all cases of children of necessitous families requiring operation for tonsils and adenoids. During the year 26 cases were operated on under this scheme. Cases operated on are followed up by the School Nurse and requested to attend the Clinic to see the School Medical Officer. An intimation is given to the teacher in order that the child's method of breathing may be kept under observation.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the past year 3 children were notified as suffering from non-pulmonary and 1 pulmonary tuberculosis (1 below school age). Children suspected of phthisis are asked to visit the Clinic for further examination. Those cases which require treatment and supervision are referred to the Tuberculosis Officer for the county. There are at present 18 children in the Borough notified as suffering from tuberculosis (1 below school age), 4 pulmonary and 14 non-pulmonary.

RE-INSPECTIONS AND FOLLOWING UP.

The Board of Education Table IV. gives the results of re-inspections to ascertain how far treatment has been secured.

SCHOOL CLINIC.

The Clinic is held daily at The Public Health Offices, Preston Road, Yeovil, Sundays and holidays excepted:—

The following accomodation is available:—

1. Rooms for the Medical Officer and Nurse.
2. A room for the treatment of skin and ear diseases, etc.
3. A waiting room.
4. An annexe to the Medical Officer's room provides for eye examinations. Provision is also made in this room for examination on a couch and for weighing the children.

The examinations and treatment are carried out by the School Medical Officer and School Nurse. The work occupies on the average two hours every morning.

CLASSIFICATION OF CASES ATTENDED AT THE SCHOOL CLINIC DURING 1937.

			Treatment carried over from previous Year.	New cases.	Treatment completed.	Treatment not completed at the end of the year.	Total attend- ances.
Eye Defects	...	...	—	69	69	—	154
Ear Defects	...	...	—	25	25	—	105
Ringworm	...	...	—	5	5	—	31
Scabies	...	...	—	4	4	—	9
Impetigo	...	..	6	49	51	4	226
Verminous	...	...	—	11	11	—	16
Referred to Dentist	...		—	71	71	—	89
Tuberculosis—Referred to Dispensary	...	...	—	3	3	—	7
Other Skin Diseases	.		—	17	17	—	35
Minor Ailments	...	...	12	450	452	10	2118
Total	...	...	18	704	708	14	2790

DISEASES AND DEFECTS DEALT WITH.

Diseases of the eye, ear and skin are treated, defects of eyesight are examined, spectacles being prescribed where necessary.

Special cases *re* children reported to the Medical Officer by the Committee, School Nurse, Teacher, Attendance Officer and parents are examined and advice given.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

The Education Committee have adopted the following scheme for Dental Inspection and Treatment.

Seven half-days per month for extractions and fillings.

One half-day per month for inspection.

Treatment is carried out at the School Clinic in Preston Road, which consists of a room for the Dental Officer, a waiting room and a rinsing room provided with sinks, hot and cold water and all necessary apparatus.

During the year 1,787 notices to attend for treatment were issued to 1,077 children and 734 attended. The number of visits made to the Clinic by these children were 1,106. 1,187 extractions, 849 temporary, and 338 of permanent teeth, and 148 fillings were made.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE SCHOOLS.—An account of the scheme for preventing the spread of infectious diseases in the Schools and Sunday Schools was given in the Public Health Report for 1930.

OTHER INSPECTIONS.

SWIMMING.—791 children desirous of receiving instruction in swimming were examined by the School Medical Officer. 30 children were found to be unfit.

ORTHOPÆDIC AND LIGHT TREATMENT.

The County Council hold their Clinics in the Dispensary, Southville. During the past year 24 children of school age received Orthopædic treatment.

No children received Light Treatment under the Education Committee scheme or under the Somerset County Council scheme.

The Borough Education Committee participate in the County Council Schemes. The Borough do not pay for Tuberculosis cases, as the County Council is the Authority for providing such treatment.

CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL OFFICERS.

The Teachers without exception afford all help in their power and many of them are enthusiastic in their work. Teachers possess a mine of valuable information concerning the capabilities and environment of the children entrusted to their charge, and the School Medical Officer is glad to have this opportunity of expressing his appreciation of their ready assistance.

The School Attendance Officer does not take part in the actual inspections but his work is closely associated with the School Medical Department. He visits the homes of all children who are absent from school through illness, he is thus able to see that the children are obtaining suitable treatment. He also notifies all cases of children unable to attend school on account of defective boots.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE.

Bye-laws for regulating the employment of children of school age are in operation in Yeovil.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.—The Education Committee does not employ an organiser for physical training.

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT SCHEME.

Under an agreement between the Town Council and the County Council of Somerset, the Town Council exercise within the Borough the County Council's power under Section 81 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935.

Under a scheme which has been approved by the Board of Education and the Ministry of Labour a Juvenile Employment Sub-Committee was formed comprising 17 representative members, for giving assistance to boys and girls under 18 with respect to choice of suitable employment.

The Committee have the assistance of a Juvenile Employment Officer (part time). There is ample evidence that the scheme is proving successful in the effort to select and procure occupations which are most fitted for the mental and physical capabilities of the children on leaving school.

The following table gives the statistical and other details of scholars for whom employment was found during 1937:

BOYS.				GIRLS.			
Aircraft	...	...	4	Food Industries	...	...	5
Baking	...	...	4	Box Making	...	...	4
Food Industries	...	...	7	Clerical Work	...	...	25
Clerical Work	...	...	22	Hairdressers	...	...	2
Engineering	...	...	19	Domestic Service	...	...	9
Errand Boys	...	...	13	Glove Making	...	...	51
Gloving	...	...	15	Shop Assistants	...	...	32
Boot Repairing	...	...	1	Waitresses	...	...	5
Painters	...	...	2	Post Office Telephone	...	...	1
Porters "Light"	...	...	9	Book Binding	...	...	4
Shop Assistants	...	...	11	Printing	...	...	5
Telegraph Messenger	...	...		Dressmaking	...	...	3
Boys	...	...	2	Cinema Attendant	...	...	2
Various	...	...	8				
Cabinet Making	...	...	2				
Van Attendants	...	...	3				
Hairdresser	...	...	1				
Carpenters	...	...	2				
Farm Work	...	...	1				
Gas Works	...	...	1				
Garden Boys	...	...	2				
Storekeepers	...	...	4				
Total ... 133				Total ... 148			

TABLE I.—RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	330
Second Age Group		...	...	...	245
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	223
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	798
					<hr/>
Number of other Routine Inspection				...	227
					<hr/>
Grand Total	...	...	...	...	1025
					<hr/>

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	1486
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	1275
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	2761
			<hr/>

C. CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Group	For defective vision (excluding Squint)			For all other conditions recorded in Table II A.	Total
(1)	(2)			(3)	(4)
Entrants	...	...	...	1	46
Second Age Group	...	...	...	12	21
Third Age Group	...	...	...	16	12
Total (Prescribed Groups)	29			79	108
Other Routine Inspections	13			3	16
			—	—	—
Grand Total	...	42		82	124

TABLE II.

A. RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR
ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1937.

Defect or Disease.					Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
					No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
					Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but <i>not</i> requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)				
<div>Skin</div> <div>Ringworm :</div> <div>(1) Scalp</div> <div>(2) Body</div> <div>(3) Scabies</div> <div>(4) Impetigo</div> <div>(5) Other Diseases (non-Tuberculous)</div>					—	—	2	—
					—	—	3	—
					—	—	4	—
					3	—	49	—
					—	—	17	—
					3	—	75	—
<div>Eye</div> <div>(6) Blepharitis</div> <div>(7) Conjunctivitis</div> <div>(8) Keratitis</div> <div>9 Corneal Opacities</div> <div>(10) Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision & Squint).</div> <div>TOTAL (Heads 6 to 10)</div>					4	—	3	—
					—	—	8	—
					—	—	—	—
					—	—	—	—
					—	—	12	—
					4	—	23	—
<div>(11) Defective Vision (excluding Squint)</div> <div>(12) Squint</div>					42	—	53	—
					6	—	—	—
<div>Ear</div> <div>(13) Defective Hearing</div> <div>(14) Otitis Media</div> <div>(15) Other Ear Diseases</div>					—	—	—	—
					—	—	—	—
					6	—	24	—

(1)					(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Nose and Throat.	{	(16) Chronic Tonsillitis only			—	—	—	—
		(17) Adenoids only			—	—	—	—
		(18) Chronic Tonsillitis & Adenoids			39	28	25	—
		(19) Other Conditions			—	1	15	—
(20) Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous					3	—	9	—
(21) Defective Speech					—	2	—	—
Heart and Circulation	{	Heart Disease :						
		(22) Organic			—	2	—	—
		(23) Functional			—	—	—	—
		(24) Anaemia			—	—	—	—
Lungs	{	(25) Bronchitis			—	—	—	—
		(26) Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases.			7	—	12	—
Tuberculosis.	{	Pulmonary :						
		(27) Definite			—	—	—	—
		(28) Suspected			—	—	—	1
		Non-pulmonary :						
		(29) Glands			1	—	2	—
		(30) Bones and Joints			—	—	—	—
		(31) Skin			—	—	—	—
		(32) Other Forms			—	—	—	—
TOTAL (Heads 29 to 32)					1	—	2	—
Nervous System.	{	(33) Epilepsy			—	—	—	—
		(34) Chorea			—	—	—	—
		(35) Other Conditions			—	—	—	—
Deformities	{	(36) Rickets			—	—	—	—
		(37) Spinal Curvature			—	—	—	—
		(38) Other Forms			—	—	—	—
(39) Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).....					13	5	319	64
TOTAL					124	38	558	65

B. CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Age-groups	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly Subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	330	—	—	327	99.1	3	.9	—	—
Second Age-group	245	—	—	244	99.6	1	.4	—	—
Third Age-group ...	223	—	—	223	—	—	—	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	227	—	—	227	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	1025	—	—	1021	99.7	4	.3	—	—

TABLE III.

RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA.

BLIND CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	—

PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Sighted.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE III.—(Contd.)

DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	—

PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	1	1	—	2

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	2	3	4	9

TABLE III.—(Contd.)

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM SEVERE EPILEPSY.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
I	—	—	—	I

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

A. TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.

I.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

(Including pleura and intra-thoracic glands).

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	3	I	—	4

II.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	10	2	I	13

TABLE III.—(Contd.)

B. DELICATE CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	—

C. CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	3	—	—	3

D. CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total
—	—	—	—	—

TABLE III.—(Contd).

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS

Combination of Defect	At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
Mentally Defective and Cripple	—	—	—	2	2
Tuberculosis & Cripple	—	—	—	2	2

TABLE IV.—RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1937.

Treatment Table.

Group 1.—*Minor Ailments* (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table vi.)

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
<i>Skin</i> —			
Ringworm-Scalp	—	—	—
(i.) X-Ray Treatment	—	—	—
(ii). Other	2	—	2
Ringworm-Body	3	—	3
Scabies	4	—	4
Impetigo	49	—	49
Other skin Disease	17	—	17
<i>Minor Eye Defects</i>	23	—	23
(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group 11).			
<i>Minor Ear Defects</i>	24	—	24
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	289	30	319
(e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.).			
Total	411	30	441

TABLE IV. (Contd.)

Group II — Defective Vision & Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

	Number of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint).	56	19	75
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	—	—	—
Total	56	19	75

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme 44
 (b) Otherwise 19—Total 63

Number of children who obtained or received spectacles :

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme 17
 (b) Otherwise 46—Total 63

TABLE IV. (Contd.)

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Number of Defects.				
Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Total.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
26	3	29	11	40

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

Number of Children Treated under the Authority's Scheme : (1)

(i)	Residential Treatment with Education	...	1
(ii)	Residential Treatment without Education	...	—
(iii)	Non-residential Treatment at an Orthopaedic clinic	... ..	24

Otherwise : (2)

(i)	Residential Treatment with Education	...	—
(ii)	Residential Treatment without Education	...	—
(iii)	Non-residential Treatment at an Orthopaedic clinic	... ..	—

Total number treated	24
----------------------	-----	-----	----

TABLE V.

Group V.—Dental Defects.

(1) Number of Children who were :

(a) Inspected by the Dentist :

Aged :

Routine Age Groups	5	161	Total	1575
	6	.....	210		
	7	.....	153		
	8	.....	116		
	9	.....	155		
	10	.....	162		
	11	.....	187		
	12	.....	170		
	13	.....	174		
	14	87			
Specials	71
Grand Total						1646

(b) Found to require treatment 1055

(c) Actually treated 902

(2) Half-days devoted to { Inspection 8 } Total 79
{ Treatment 71 }

(3) Attendances made by children for treatment 938

(4) Fillings { Permanent Teeth 148 } Total 148
{ Temporary Teeth — }(5) Extractions { Permanent Teeth 338 } Total 1187
{ Temporary Teeth 849 }

(6) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions —

(7) Other Operations { Permanent Teeth — } Total
{ Temporary Teeth — }*Group VI.—Uncleanliness and verminous condition*(i.) Average number of visits per school made during the
year by the School Nurses 5(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools
by School Nurses 7,454

(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean 30

(iv) Number of individual children cleansed under Sec-
tion 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921 —

(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 —

(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws —

